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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q62251

Eiji KASUTANI

Appln. No.: 09/732,701

Confirmation No.: 2921

Group Art Unit: 2623

Filed: December 11, 2000

Examiner: Jon C. CHANG

For: IMAGE RETRIEVAL DEVICE, IMAGE RETRIEVAL METHOD AND STORAGE
MEDIUM STORING SIMILAR-IMAGE RETRIEVAL PROGRAM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. "Image Retrieval System using Compact Color Layout Descriptor" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, AKIO YAMADA, MUTSUMI OHTA; Materials of the 4th Image Media Processing Symposium, Japan, 29 September 1999, IMPS99, pp. 89-90
2. "Proposal for a High-Speed Searching Scheme Using Information in Compressed Video as a Key" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, KEIJI MAEDA, HISASHI

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U.S. APPLN. NO. 09/732,701
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q62251

MIYAMORI, HIDEYOSHI TOMINAGA; Abstracts of the 1997 Annual Meeting of the Institute of Image Information and Television Engineers, Japan, 23 July 1997, No.15-10, pp. 191-192

3. "High Speed Target Searching of MPEG Video Based on Time Series Evaluation of Low Order DCT Coefficients" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, AKIO YAMADA, MUTSUMI OHTA; Proceedings of the 1999 General Meeting of Electronics, Information and Communications Engineers, Japan, 8 March 1999, No. D-12-7, p. 180
4. "Format-Independent Scheme for High Speed Searching for Similar Video Segments" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, AKIO YAMADA, MUTSUMI OHTA; Proceedings of the 1999 General Meeting of Electronics, Information and Communications Engineers Systems Society Meeting, Japan, 16 August 1999, No. D-12-6, p. 170

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated July 8, 2003, and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof,

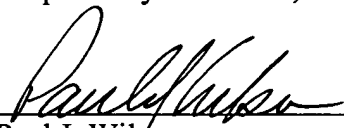
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which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 26, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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of

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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/732,701
Confirmation Number	2921
Filing Date	December 11, 2000
First Named Inventor	Eiji KASUTANI
Art Unit	2623
Examiner Name	Jon C. CHANG
Attorney Docket Number	Q62251

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		"Image Retrieval System using Compact Color Layout Descriptor" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, AKIO YAMADA, MUTSUMI OHTA; Materials of the 4 th Image Media Processing Symposium, Japan, 29 September 1999, IMPS99, pp. 89-90	No
		"Proposal for a High-Speed Searching Scheme Using Information in Compressed Video as a Key" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, KEIJI MAEDA, HISASHI MIYAMORI, HIDEYOSHI TOMINAGA; Abstracts of the 1997 Annual Meeting of the Institute of Image Information and Television Engineers, Japan, 23 July 1997, No.15-10, pp. 191-192	No
		"High Speed Target Searching of MPEG Video Based on Time Series Evaluation of Low Order DCT Coefficients" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, AKIO YAMADA, MUTSUMI OHTA; Proceedings of the 1999 General Meeting of Electronics, Information and Communications Engineers, Japan, 8 March 1999, No. D-12-7, p. 180	No
		"Format-Independent Scheme for High Speed Searching for Similar Video Segments" Authors: EIJI KASUTANI, AKIO YAMADA, MUTSUMI OHTA; Proceedings of the 1999 General Meeting of Electronics, Information and Communications Engineers Systems Society Meeting, Japan, 16 August 1999, No. D-12-6, p. 170	No

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

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(Regarding Claims 1 through 28) Cited Literature 1

Cited Literature 1 describes an image search system which splits still images into 8×8 blocks, extracts the average of each block as a representative color and generates reduced images, and furthermore performs DCT conversion on the reduced images, and from the obtained coefficients, extracts the lower order coefficient sequence of the luminance/chrominance signal by means of a zigzag scan, takes one eighth of the discrete value of the DC component and then quantizes to the range $[0, 255]$, takes one fourth of the discrete value of the AC luminance component and then quantizes to the range $[-128, 127]$, and takes one half of the discrete value of the AC chrominance component and then quantizes to the range $[-128, 127]$ to extract as the color structure features, and then performs quantization of a portion of the lower order coefficients of the DCT coefficients so as to make them into 84 bits (12 coefficients, 7 bits) in order to optimize the search precision and extract them as the image features, and searches for images with a short (high similarity) distance D (weighted L2 norm) between features.

Since providing a means which stores image features extracted from images stored in an image database is no more than a well-known and commonly used technique in the technical field of image searching, whether or not to employ such an arrangement is no more than a design feature which would be selected as appropriate by a person skilled in the art.

List of Cited Literature

1. Eiji Kasuya et al.: Image search system using compact color structure features. Materials of the 4th Image Media Processing Symposium, Japan, 29 September 1999, IMPS99, pp. 89-90.

Eiji Kasuya et al.: Proposal for a high-speed searching scheme using information in compressed video as a key. Abstracts of the 1997 Annual Meeting of the Institute of Image Information and Television Engineers, Japan, 23 July 1997, No. 15-10, pp. 191-192.

Eiji Kasuya et al.: High speed target part searching of MPEG video based on time series evaluation of low order DCT coefficients. Proceedings of the 1999 General Meeting of the Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, Japan, 8 March 1999, No. D-12-7, p. 180.

Eiji Kasuya et al.: Format-independent scheme for high speed searching for similar video segments. Proceedings of the 1999 Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers Systems Society Meeting, Japan, 16 August 1999, No. D-12-6, p. 170.

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.